IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant:

Frank M. Keese et al.

Title:

FLEXIBLE COMPOSITES WITH

INTEGRAL FLIGHTS FOR USE IN HIGH-TEMPERATURE FOOD

PROCESSING EQUIPMENT

AND METHODS FOR PRODUCING THE SAME

Appl. No.:

Filing Date:

Examiner:

Art Unit:

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service's "Express Mail Post Office To Addressee" service under 37 C.F.R. § 1.10 on the date indicated below and is addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, PO Box 1450, Alexandria,

CERTIFICATE OF EXPRESS MAILING

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Virginia 22313-1450.

3/9/04

(Date of Deposit)

Carolyn Simpson

(Printed Name)

PETITION TO MAKE SPECIAL UNDER 37 C.F.R. 1.102(c)

Mail Stop Petition Commissioner for Patents PO Box 1450 Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

Sir:

Applicants hereby petition the Patent and Trademark Office under 37 C.F.R. §1.102(c) to make special the instant application. It is believed that no fee is due for the instant petition, however, should a fee be required, the PTO is authorized to charge the Deposit Account No. 06-1447. This petition is submitted on the grounds that one of the present applicants is 65 years of age or more as set forth in 37 C.F.R. § 1.102(c). The basis for the petition is to obtain special status for this application so that it receives expedited prosecution.

MPEP § 708.02 IV provides that "[a]n application may be made special upon filing a petition including any evidence showing that the applicant is 65 years of age, or more, such as a birth certificate or applicant's statement. No fee is required for such a petition."

In the present case, John A. Effenberger is greater than 65 years of age. A copy of his notarized birth certificate, thereby providing evidence that John A. Effenberger is greater than 65 years old and meets the requirements for awarding "special" status to the present application.

Applicants believe they have satisfied all of the requirements for this patent application to be granted special status. Granting this petition is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitte

Date

Mar. 9,2004

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